

Burkey Beacon

Helping Reach the Campus

May 12, 2021



Dear Friend,

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.

⁸They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.

It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.” Jeremiah 17:7-8



As spring unfolds, I have been pondering the imagery that God uses throughout His Word depicting people as trees. We see this imagery in passages like Jeremiah 17: 7-8, Psalm 1, and Psalm 92:12-15 and they have many similarities. As people trust in God, enjoy His presence, and delight in His Word they are like a tree planted by streams of water, bearing fruit, and not being affected by storm or drought. Their leaves stay fresh and do not wither.

In Isaiah 61:3, people in whom God is at work are named: “oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor.” Trees are magnificent and their ability to grow deep roots, endure all kinds of weather, and produce fruit most years is amazing. Their beginnings are so small, and they don’t do much activity from day to day in order to produce this growth. Trees that do best are those connected to a source of water.

Like trees, we do best if we are connected to the source of life, of love, and of power. That source is God, and His Spirit fills us, empowers us, and comforts us to endure the trials of this life and to bear fruit, not of our own doing but by His power. **Our prayer for you**, our family, the students we work with, and even for ourselves is that we all will stay connected to the source of living water by spending time with Him in prayer and reading His Word, then live our days in faith. He alone is able to satisfy and empower us to be a planting for the display of His splendor and to produce much fruit for His Kingdom!

Monmouth Cru

The new movement at Monmouth College finished well with an in-person gathering of fun and prayer. These 13 students have been so committed to meet each week over zoom to study God’s Word and are really grateful for the community He has provided. One student, named **Tucker**, is really wanting to grow in his ability to share the Good News of Jesus with others and has committed to



going on a summer mission with Cru to Jackson Hole, Wyoming. There he will be trained in how to share his faith and disciple others so that he can return to campus this fall and help lead this movement of students.

Please pray that each of these students will stay connected to Lord this summer and return to campus this Fall ready to be used by the Lord to make a difference on this campus for Him. **Please also pray** that we will find a faculty person willing to be our advisor to become a student organization on campus.

Lake Erie College



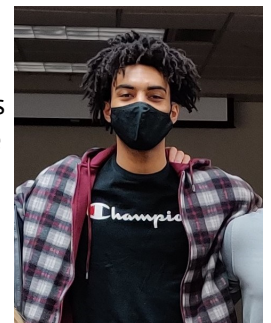
Adam and I made a trip up to Painesville, Ohio April 26th to meet up with 8 students individually and to have an info meeting that night for all who were interested in starting a Christian movement on campus. What a joy it was to talk to student after student and hear how God was working in their lives to long for Christian community and for growth in their own walks with the Lord. Here are just a few of their stories:

Kaylin is a second-year student who transferred to LEC this year to play lacrosse but because of covid, they did not have a season. So she was without lacrosse and she started wondering “Why am I even here?” She began to realize that God was wanting her to find her worth and significance in who she was outside of playing sports and in who she is as His child. She longed for Christian fellowship to help her in her pursuit of God and had voiced that desire to her mom and boyfriend. A week later we found her on Instagram and invited her to help start Cru on her campus, and she was overjoyed!



Jarrod made playing golf a priority for many years and it had led him away from going to church on Sundays. This year, he decided to start attending the Church of Christ across the street from campus and invited his Mormon roommate to come with him. His roommate agreed, and they both have enjoyed what they are learning and the people they were meeting to the point that his roommate’s parents are becoming concerned! Please pray Jarrod can help answer his roommate’s many questions and his roommate would clearly understand the gospel and put his faith in Jesus.

Trevor is the son of Cru staff and is playing basketball at LEC. He is a sophomore and has been longing to have something like Cru on his campus to help him be a more effective witness to his friends he has made there. He is thrilled that we are looking to start a movement in the Fall, and he says that he has a bunch of friends that would be interested to attend meetings and Bible studies!



Megan lost her mother in December to COVID-19 so this first year on campus has definitely been a hard one for her. She believes in God and knows He has a reason for everything yet wants to grow in her understanding of who He is and her knowledge of His Word in fellowship with others.

It was clear that God is at work at LEC in the lives of students and that He longs for these students to have a place where they can encourage one another, spur one another on, and dive into His Word together. Fourteen students attended our meeting that night and they represented about every athletic team on campus as well as student government. Praise God!!

The National Senior Sendoff - If you know any graduating seniors, here’s a **GREAT OPPORTUNITY** for them

What: A free, one hour, inspirational, virtual event for graduating High School seniors and their families.

Why: To inspire graduating high school seniors to pursue faith as they embark on a new chapter in their lives.

How: The program will include national Christian singing artists, professional athletes, college professors, students, and Christian leaders.

When: Sunday –May 16, 2021— at 8pm EDT—Save the Date

Website: <https://www.nationalseniorsendoff.com/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP, Adam & Amy Burkey